



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA

Addressed to: Mr Andrew Mehrton, Executive Branch Manager, Social Policy & Office of LGBTIQ+ Affairs

In relation to: Capital of Equality Grants

Hearing: 20 February 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 63–64

Transcript provided: 26 February 2025

Answer Due: 5 March 2025 5:00:00 PM

Mr Mehrton took on notice the following question(s):

MS BARRY: So that covers travel as well. That was my next question. One more supplementary before I move on? It just wraps up that one for me. Can you provide, and you probably would need to take this on notice, a table showing how the values of these grants have changed over the last five years? Would that be information you would capture?

Mr Mehrton: Yes, that is fine. I can take that on notice.

MS BARRY: Excellent. Thank you very much.

ANDREW BARR MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Capital of Equality Grants Program was established in 2019 with an ongoing base funding allocation of \$100,000 per annum. Over time, the grant funding has evolved significantly, particularly in response to growing community needs. From 2022, the funding allocation has increased temporarily to \$350,000 per annum for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 financial years, and \$250,000 per annum for the 2024-2025 financial year in response to additional community need following the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding increase triggered the Grants Program redesign to include three distinct funding streams:

1. **Connection Fund:** Supporting one-off initiatives that enhance community connection and belonging (funding ranging between \$5,000 and \$15,000 per grant, subject to eligibility criteria).

2. **Partnership and Capacity Building:** Strengthening LGBTIQ+ peer-led organisations and improving inclusivity in mainstream NGOs (funding ranging between \$25,000 to \$50,000 per grant, subject to eligibility criteria).
3. **LGBTIQ+ Leadership:** Providing professional development opportunities for LGBTIQ+ leaders, with grants ranging between \$650 and \$1,500.

The table showing the grants value of all years of funding:

Year	Stream	Budget available	Number of projects / individuals funded	Projects' value
2019	N/A	\$100,000	10 projects	Average: \$10,000 Smallest: \$1,800 Largest: \$23,635
2020-21	N/A	\$100,000	10 projects	Average: \$10,000 Smallest: \$3,000 Largest: \$21,683.00
2021-22	N/A	\$100,000	10 projects	Average: \$10,000 Smallest: \$4,000 Largest: \$20,000
2022 (1)	N/A	\$100,000	9 projects	Average: \$11,109 Smallest: \$2,147.00 Largest: \$29,500.00
2022-23 (2)*	Stream 1 Connection Fund	\$350,000	14 projects	Average: \$4,412 Smallest: \$1,175 Largest: \$6,809
	Stream 2 Partnerships and Capacity Building		9 projects (out of which 5 are for 2 years)	Average: \$44,077 Smallest: \$6,325 Largest: \$100,000
	Stream 3 LGBTIQ+ Leadership		10 leaders	Ranging between \$650-\$1,500 as per eligibility
2023-24	Stream 1 Connection Fund	\$350,000	7 projects	Average: \$10,573 Smallest: \$3,035 Largest: \$15,000
	Stream 2 Partnerships and Capacity Building		5 projects	Average: \$28,587 Smallest: \$15,000 Largest: \$40,000
	Stream 3 LGBTIQ+ Leadership		14 leaders	Ranging between \$650-\$1,500 as per eligibility

* COVID-19 additional funding boost.

NB: 2024-25 grants are still being finalised.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature: 

Date: **27.2.25**

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA